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REMARKS

The present amendment is being submitted after a telephone conference with the Examiner who indicated that action on the RCE was being held up since the clerk would not enter the earlier amendment of record since it did not conform to the Rules. The amendment did correspond to the Rules in effect at that time but the present amendment is being filed to expedite the prosecution. Therefore, action on the RCE is requested.

Respectfully submitted, Muserlian, Lucas and Mercanti

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CAM:ds

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Charles A. Muserlian

Date: February 25, 2004

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